AGRI., CO-OPN. & FORESTS.

more fish farms were opened by constructing fish nursery ponds at Bethamangala and Hessarghatta.

480. The Fishery Research Laboratory at Krishnarajsagar continued to be equipped and the question of constructing permanent buildings for the Research Section was under consideration.

Bee-keeping

481. Though twenty bee-keeping centres were opened, only 12 were continuing at the close of the year. There were altogether 630 (505) private bee-keepers in 282 (308) villages of the State, maintaining 1,432 (1,251) colonies which yielded 5,335 (4,238) lbs. of honey, apart from the other quantities of honey directly extracted and disposed of by the bee-keepers themselves. Preliminary work connected with the starting of a big Central Bee Farm was taken up at Hessarghatta Grass Farm and 30 colonies were established during the year. The methods of rearing bees on improved lines and extraction of honey by hygienic and scientific ways were demonstrated to the public at the several exhibitions and District Conferences.

(vi) Condition of the People.

Rainfall and Seasonal Conditions.

482. The rainfall was less during the year being below the 36 years' average. The yield of principal food crops was normal, though the outturn of crops in some parts of the State was less on account of untimely and insufficient rainfall. The rainfall was also not evenly distributed and consequently some of the tanks did not receive adequate supply of water and the wet crops under these tanks suffered with the result that remissions were sanctioned during the year in some districts.

483. The agricultural stock was generally healthy and food and water were available. Public health was also generally good throughout the State except for the prevalence of plague and small-pox in some parts. Necessary preventive measures were taken to check the spread of the epidemic. Sufficient labour was available to the cooly classes during the year. The seasonal conditions were on the whole satisfactory.

Distress.

484. There was no distress as such in any part of the State during the year. But owing to unfavourable seasonal conditions, the tanks in the Mulbagal Taluk did not receive adequate supply of water. Seasonal remission

of half the wet assessment of atchkat lands under the tanks of Chintamani Taluk amounting to Rs. 18,596 was sanctioned in October 1949.

485. Sufficient quantities of fodder for cattle and drinking water for both men and cattle were available in all the parts of the State. Loans and advances were sanctioned liberally as usual during the year. Remissions amounting to Rs. 50,564 were sanctioned. The scheme of subsidisation of irrigation wells was in operation in all the Districts of the State.

(vii) Co-operative Societies and Land Mortgage Banks.

486. The following statement indicates the progress made by the Co-operative movement in the State during the year :—

Particulars		*1948-49*	*1949-50*
		Rs.	Rs.
Number of Co-operative Societies		5,103	5,130
Number of members	...	3,90,615	4,70,360
Paid-up share capital	... Rs.	1,08,21,521	1,21,47,569
Deposits held	... ,,	1,57,84,919	1,96,55,847
Loans from Central Financing Institutions excluding Land Mortgage Bank	... ,,	72,99,966	81,96,723
Loans from Government (Primary, Central and Urban)	... ,,	8,44,590	2,60,886
Reserve Fund ...	... ,,	50,42,212	51,14,595
Other Funds ...	... ,,	11,61,822	16,27,602
Total Working Capital	... ,,	4,47,18,511	5,41,19,780
Net profits ...	... ,,	9,84,376	16,87,632
Total turnover ...	... ,,	30,97,77,323	41,07,01,214
Loans issued during the year	... ,,	2,00,51,874	1,84,16,968
Loans recovered during the year	,,	1,41,08,022	1,50,51,442
Loans outstanding at the end of the year	... ,,	2,73,15,483	3,33,67,598
Loans overdue at the end of the year	... ,,	32,68,937	40,52,929

487. There has been an increase in the number of societies by 27. Sixty-five societies were registered during the year and the registration of 36 societies was cancelled. The number of members of all the societies at the close of the year was 4,70,360. The starting of Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies under the Rural Development Scheme